

# *Sunday Bulletin*

*Կիրակնօրեայ Լրագիր*



**ENTER TO WORSHIP THE LORD  
DEPART TO SERVE HIM**

**DECEMBER 14, 2008  
THE ARMENIAN CHURCH YEAR OF 1457  
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
ՅԻՍՆԱԿԻ ՉՈՐՐՈՐԴ ԿԻՐԱԿԻ  
FEAST OF ST. JAMES (HAGOP) OF NISIBIS  
ՏՕՆ Ս. ՅԱԿՈՒՄ ՄԵՏՁԲԱՆ**

**THE LORD'S DAY - SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP**

Matins - Առաւօտեան Ժամերգութիւն.....9:00 am  
Divine Liturgy - Սուրբ Պատարագ .....9:45 am  
Church School - Կիրակնօրեայ Դպրոց.....10:15 am

**SACRED LECTIONS OF THE LITURGY**

Today – Isaiah 38:1-8, Hebrews 1:1-14, Luke 17:1-10  
Next Week – Isaiah 40:18-31, Hebrews 4:16-5:10, Luke 18:9-14

**LECTOR: John Kalajian**

**THE NICENE CREED WILL BE RECITED IN ARMENIAN**

**ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH**  
Father Garabed Archpriest Kochakian, Pastor

**OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday – Friday  
(248) 569-3405**

After hours in an emergency, please contact:  
Pastor's Cell: (248) 225-9888  
Administrator's Cell: (248) 802-2861

**DAY BY DAY . . . AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18 AT NOON  
CHRISTMAS POT LUCK**

**Bible Study Leader: Yeretgin Roberta  
Bring your Bible and a meal to share, we will provide the coffee.**

<u>Tracking Our "Treasures"</u>	<u>Sunday, December 7</u>
Plate Donations	\$371.00
Candle Donations	\$175.00

**AT THE PARISH BOOKSTORE**

**NEW CD: GOMIDAS SONGS**

By Isabel Bayrakdarian - \$20.00

**NEW: WHAT WILL YOU REMEMBER?**

By Elise Papazian – Softcover - \$20.00

**NEW: MY GRANDMOTHER: A MEMOIR BY  
FETHIYE CETIN - HARDCOVER – \$20.00**

**500 PRESENTS FOR PENELOPE POTTS**  
A Christmas story for children by Lisa Yaldezian - \$20.00

**"ARMENIAN MUSIC OF GRIKOR MIRZAIAN SUNI"**

Featuring Deacon Rubik Mailian & Maro Partamian  
Recorded live at The Armenian Congregational Church  
DVD - \$30.00 CD - \$20.00

**ONE TAKE by Mal Barsamian – CD - \$18.00  
Great Dance Music!!!**

**GADOO: THE CAT, AN ARMENIAN FOLK TALE  
By Susan Kadian Gopigian - \$17.00**

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

Tuesday, December 16 – SENIOR LUNCH – Noon  
Thursday, December 18 – AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY - Noon  
Sunday, December 21 –FIFTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**THOUGHT OF THE WEEK**

You make a living from what you get...  
but you make a life from what you give.

**SPECIAL HYMNS FOR TODAY**

*Megheti (Melody) – Ee Kerezman  
Tapor (Processional) – Parekhosootyamp  
Jamamood (Intriot) - Miadzin Vorti  
Jashou Sharagan (Mid-day Hymn) – Takavorin Havidenits  
Jashou Alleluia – Dzaps Harek...*

**THE KOMITAS CHOIR UNDER THE DIRECTION OF**  
Deacon Rubik Mailian, Director of Sacred Music  
Margaret Lafian, Organist

**USHERS:** Art Barsamian, George Godoshian, Harry Karebian,  
Kevork Terterian, Michael Hovey, Michael Karebian, Ardag Tachian

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

The floral arrangements adorning the altar were presented by  
Dr. and Mrs. John Yarjanian on the happy occasion of their  
marriage.

**CROWN THEM WITH GLORY AND HONOR**

We rejoice in celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Crowning and  
have asked Christ our God to bless the marriage of  
**John Yarjanian & Linda Weibel**

**FALLEN ASLEEP IN THE LORD**

We offer prayers for the servant of God  
**RONALD NAJARIAN**  
May Christ our Lord shed His eternal light upon his soul.

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

H.B. Mesrob Mutafian, Patriarch of Istanbul  
Fr. Vahram Hazarian (Chicago)  
Yeretgin Patricia Dagley

Donna Adams	Valeriy Bagdasarian
Bud Mulder	Marge Dakesian
Gregory Derderian	Edgar Hagopian
Chris Wigent	Margaret Jamgochian
Marybeth Sutton	Steven Bear (CA)
Robert Ajemian	Paul Tootikian
Christine Danielian Vaughn	Lucy Torigian

## **GOSPEL READING: Luke 17:1-10**

And he said to his disciples, "Temptations to sin are sure to come; but woe to him by whom they come! It would be better for him if a millstone were hung round his neck and he were cast into the sea, than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin. Take heed to yourselves; if your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him; and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, and say, "I repent," you must forgive him."

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" And the Lord said, "If you had faith as a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this sycamine tree, 'Be rooted up, and be planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

"Will any one of you, who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep, say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and sit down at table'? Will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, and gird yourself and serve me, till I eat and drink; and afterward you shall eat and drink'? Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that is commanded you, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.'"

## **ASK THE PASTOR**

### **HOW OFTEN SHOULD I RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION?**

You should consider the regular reception of holy communion to be at the center of your life as an Armenian Christian. There is no doubt that the earliest Christians understood the celebration of the Eucharist and the joyful reception of holy communion to be the greatest privilege and blessing of Christian life. Jesus said, "He who eats my body and drinks my blood dwells in me and I in him" [Jn 6:56]. St Paul wrote, "For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes" [I Cor 11:26]. To share in the Lord's Supper is to profess and to celebrate our faith that in Christ, sin and death will no longer separate us from eternal life with God. To receive holy communion is to receive the living Son of God into our bodies, into our lives, as divine sustenance; as "medicine for forgiveness," as "forgiveness and expiation of sins," for protection against evil, and "for health of soul and body and for the performance of all deeds of virtue," as the prayers and hymns of our *Badarak* continually proclaim. Eagerness to receive holy communion must always be complemented by reverence for the sanctity of the sacrament, which one must not allow to become a casual or indiscriminate habit.

## **COMING EVENTS**

**Sunday, December 21, 2008, 12:30 pm**  
**Church School Annual Christmas Program**

**Wednesday, December 24, 2008, 10:30 pm**  
**Western Christmas Eve Service & ACYOA Tea**

**Sunday, December 28, 2008**  
**Remembrance of St. Stephen, the First Deacon**

**Monday, January 5, 2009**  
**Armenian Christmas Eve**  
**Readings, 6:30 pm; Divine Liturgy, 7:00 pm**

**Tuesday, January 6, 2009**  
**Armenian Christmas Divine Liturgy, 10:00 am**  
**Women's Guild Luncheon to follow**

**Friday, January 9, 2009**  
**Komitas Choir Piano Recital**  
**(see inside back cover)**

**Saturday, January 10, 2009**  
**Armenian Heritage & Culture Lyceum opens**  
**All classes in session**

**Sunday, January 11, 2009**  
**"Living the Divine Liturgy"**  
**Christmas Morning Service, 9:00 am**  
**Festive Divine Liturgy/Blessing of Water, 10:00 am**  
**Christmas Family Luncheon /Visit from Santa**

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**Monday, January 12, 2009**  
**Town Hall Meeting, 7:30pm**

**SPECIAL MUSIC EVENT:** Concert of Armenian Music of Grikor Mirzaian Suni - 7pm, Friday, January 2, 2009, Ann Arbor District Library, 343 S. Fifth Ave, Ann Arbor, presented by a chamber ensemble of musicians including Grikor Suni's great granddaughters violinists Sevan Suni, and Anoush Suni (who will also play oud), their mother pianist Armena Marderosian, tenor Rubik Mailian, and soprano Anahit Toumajan.

## ABOUT OUR DIVINE LITURGY

### The Holy Sacrifice – The Eucharist

After the Kiss of Peace comes the Anaphora or Eucharistic Prayer, the longest and most important prayer of the Divine Liturgy. The prayer expresses the faith of the Armenian Church and commemorates our salvation through the special ministry of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. The prayer recalls the key biblical events by which Christ has brought us "freedom from condemnation;" his incarnation (birth as a human being), his suffering, crucifixion, death and burial, his resurrection on the third day, his ascension into heaven with the Father, and his second coming. The dialogue between the deacon, choir and priest, which precedes the Eucharistic Prayer exhorts the assembly to heightened attention for this important part of the Divine Liturgy.

**WESTERN CHRISTMAS EVE**

*Wednesday, December 24*

*Worship and Carols*

*10:30 pm*

*ACYOA Seniors Tea to follow*



*Come and begin our Christmas  
Season celebration!*



### **BASHDON HOKEHANKSDYAN - REQUIEM SERVICE FOR THOSE WHO SLEEP IN CHRIST**

**GEORGE DERDERIAN, 40<sup>th</sup> Year, Father, Grandfather, Brother,  
Brother-in-Law, Uncle, Great-Uncle, Friend**

Requested by George, Zonica, Chelsea & Ashley Derderian  
Nick & Anne Derderian

Roger, Denise, Jennifer & Brigitte Chiroyan  
Ron & pat Derderian

Kristen & Tom Marten & Elizabeth

Ryan & Carrie Derderian & Katie

**ALEX BARSAMIAN, 5<sup>th</sup> Year, Husband, Father, Brother,  
Brother-in-Law, Uncle, Cousin**

Requested by Margaret Barsamian

Rosemary, Johanna, Alex Jr. & Holly

Almast & Tom Sinn

Lauren & Brian Salyer

Jackie & James Finn

Mr. & Mrs. Grover Rodgers

Y. Gladys Barsamian

Harry, Estelle, Mark & Paul Barsamian

Ardemis & Mark Kaylian

Araxey & Elizabeth Barsamian

Leona Asher

**BERJOUHI KULECERIAN, 5<sup>th</sup> Year, Mother, Grandmother  
YEGHIA KULECERIAN, 13<sup>th</sup> Year, Father, Grandfather**

Requested by Ardag, Salpi, Alex & Tamara Tachian

**ROSEMARY HOPLAMAZIAN, 16<sup>th</sup> Year, Wife, Mother, Grandmother,  
Sister-in-Law, Godmother**

Requested by Mihran & Gayle Hoplamazian

Roy & Joy Callan, Vahan & Knar

Dikran & Kelly Callan

Gar Hoplamazian

Brooke Hoplamazian

Marin & Garo Hoplamazian

Dr. Aris & Alice Hoplamazian, Eric & Lisa

Sona Simsarian & Children (California)

Dolik Godchildren: Michael, Lisa & David

**EDNA DOUROUJALIAN KAVLAKIAN, Sister, Aunt**

Requested by Virginia Douroujalian

Andrew & Mary Douroujalian & Family

**WELCOME** . . . We welcome our visitors who are attending the Divine Liturgy at St. John's parish, and we pray that your participation has been enriched through word and worship. We invite those visitors who are baptized and/or confirmed in the Armenian Church or are members of a church which is in communion with the Armenian Church to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. If you are a member of the Armenian Church and a newcomer to our community and would like information about our Christian Education program or any of our parish auxiliary groups, please call our office and we will be happy to respond to your questions. The Lord Jesus Christ loves you and desires that you share His love with others, making this holy community your spiritual home.

### **MARRIAGES**

Arrangements for weddings in our holy sanctuary are to be made at least eight months in advance. Marriage preparation and counseling are required before the celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony. Marriages are NOT celebrated during the season of Great Lent according to Armenian Church Canon Law.

### **BAPTISMS AND CHRISMATIONS**

All Baptisms must be scheduled no less than two months in advance. At least one of the godparents must be a member of the Armenian Church, i.e. baptized in the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox faith. Baptisms are NOT celebrated during the season of Great Lent according to Armenian Church Canon Law.

### **CHURCH AND HOME...ONE IN SPIRIT**

*If a people progresses, it takes its first step from the family home;  
If illuminated, its light derives from the family lamp;  
If united, its spirit and bond is the family;  
If empowered, its strength and arm is the family;  
If it prospers, its treasury and treasurer is the family;  
If a people wants to inherit heaven after earth by  
Keeping its religion, faith and church, then, yes,  
The altar that maintains these holy  
Traditions incorruptible and whole is the family.*

Khrimian Hayrig (1820-1907)

## Emergency Telephone Numbers

*These are more effective than 911*

### When -

*You are sad, phone John 14*

*You have sinned, phone Psalm 51*

*You are facing danger, phone Psalm 91*

*People have failed you, phone Psalm 27*

*It feels as though God is far from you, phone Psalm 139*

*Your faith needs stimulation, phone Hebrews 11*

*You are alone and scared, phone Psalm 23*

*You are worried, phone Matthew 8:19-34*

*You are hurt and critical, phone 1 Corinthians 13*

*You wonder about Christianity, phone 2 Corinthians 5:15-18*

*You feel like an outcast, phone Romans 8:31-39*

*You are seeking peace, phone Matthew 11:25-30*

*It feels as if the world is bigger than God, phone Psalm 90*

*You need Christ like insurance, phone Romans 8:1-30*

*You are leaving home for a trip, phone Psalm 121*

*You are praying for yourself, phone Psalm 87*

*You require courage for a task, phone Joshua 1*

*Inflation's and investments are hogging your thoughts, phone Mark 10:17-31*

*You are depressive, phone Psalm 27*

*Your bank account is empty, phone Psalm 37*

*You lose faith in mankind, phone 1 Corinthians 13*

*It looks like people are unfriendly, phone John 15*

*You are losing hope, phone Psalm 126*

*You feel the world is small compared to you, phone Psalm 19*

*You want to carry fruit, phone John 15*

*Paul's secret for happiness, phone Colossians 3:12-17*

*With big opportunity/ discovery, phone Isaiah 55*

*To get along with other people, phone Romans 12*

### ALTERNATE NUMBERS

*For dealing with fear, call Psalm 47*

*For security, call Psalm 121:3*

*For assurance, call Mark 8:35*

*For reassurance, call Psalm 145:18*

**ALL THESE NUMBERS MAY BE PHONED DIRECTLY.**

**NO OPERATOR ASSISTANCE IS NECESSARY.**

**ALL LINES TO HEAVEN ARE AVAILABLE 24 HOURS A DAY.**

**FEEB YOUR FAITH, AND DOUBT WILL STARVE TO DEATH**

## ACYOA SENIORS FOOD DRIVE

### FOR THE NEEDY

*From December 14 to January 11 please bring to church any dry or canned foods. There will be labeled containers at the lobby entrance of the church. Please help the less fortunate during this holiday season.*

TODAY

Women's Guild Bake Sale

### ARMENIAN HERITAGE & CULTURE LYCEUM TO BEGIN CLASSES SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

*There is still time to register students for this wonderful language and enrichment program in Armenian culture being held on our campus on alternate Saturdays, from 10:00 am – 1:30 pm. Students must be at least 6 years of age and no older than 14 years. The curriculum includes Armenian language and history, Armenian music and art, Armenian cooking, and Armenian dance. Classes will continue through June 13, 2009. For more information, please contact Deacon Rubik at 248.569.3405 or via email at [rubik@sjachurch.org](mailto:rubik@sjachurch.org). Give the gift of heritage to a child...they will remember it for a lifetime!*

**NEW SIGNS TO GUIDE OUR WORSHIPPERS  
AT FRONT ENTRY AND LOBBY ENTRANCE**  
**In an effort to help the faithful better understand  
why there are times during the Holy Badarak  
the entrance to the sanctuary is suspended, new  
signs will be posted by the ushers to clearly  
describe why the faithful should wait courteously  
until it is time to enter.**